

Ulm, May 28, 2024

Wieland celebrates groundbreaking ceremony for copper recycling center in Vöhringen

- Official start of construction for foundry expansion
- Investment of around 80 million euros at the Wieland Group's largest site in Germany
- Recycling as the key to Wieland's decarbonization strategy

The official groundbreaking ceremony on May 27, 2024, will mark the start of a project with major implications for Wieland: the foundry at the Vöhringen site will be expanded to include a recycling center. Thanks to state-of-the-art and efficient technology, this center will enable the processing of copper scrap, thus increasing the global recycling rate of Wieland products to more than 80 percent after commissioning.

"If we look at the foundry expansion in Vöhringen with a recycling center from a sustainability perspective, this is a global showcase project with a signal effect," emphasizes Dr. Erwin Mayr, CEO of the Wieland Group. "The new plant is an important building block on our way to sustainably closing the material cycle and increasing our global recycling rate to 100 percent in the near future." This endeavor brings Wieland a big step closer to its goal of greenhouse gas-neutral production by 2045 at the latest. Other cornerstones of the decarbonization strategy are the electrification of all plants to phase out fossil fuels and the full use of renewable energy through green power supply contracts and in-house power generation using photovoltaic and wind power systems.

Vöhringen, a strategic base for Wieland, is crucial in terms of material supply. From here, plants throughout Europe and parts of Asia are supplied with high-quality semi-finished copper

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products. This investment is a clear commitment to the Vöhringen site, where 25 new jobs will be created, reinforcing our confidence in the site's potential. "Our new recycling center is a forward-looking investment for our main plant in Vöhringen and will play an important role in further differentiating us from the competition," says Anton Zierhut, President Extruded Products of the Wieland Group.

Efficient copper recycling

In the future, the new plant on the Wieland foundry site will produce pure copper bolts with a recycled content of 100 percent. This innovative approach, using copper scrap and granulate as well as on-site production scrap, not only ensures the supply of material to various Wieland sites but also has a positive impact on the CO₂ footprint of Wieland products. The recycling process, based on a highly energy-efficient method known as fire refining, sets new standards that benefit not only us but also our customers. They receive primary material with the lowest Product Carbon Footprint (PCF) in the industry, empowering them to make their own process chains lower-emission and more sustainable.

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Picture material



From left to right:

Rudolf Liebsch (Director Special Projects, Project Manager Wieland Group), **Lea Schmid** (Project Manager soho-projekt GmbH), **Herbert Walk** (Second Mayor of Vöhringen), **Eva Treu** (District Administrator of Neu-Ulm), **Dr. Erwin Mayr** (CEO Wieland Group), **Eckhart Zimmermann** (Vice President Global Engineering Wieland Group), **Anton Zierhut** (President Extruded Products Wieland Group), **Rudi Mattes** (Head of Sales and Project Management FBW Fertigbau Wochner), **Reiner Fohler** (Chief Construction Manager Leonard Weiss GmbH & Co. KG).

About Wieland

Wieland is one of the world's leading suppliers of semi-finished copper and copper alloy products. With a global network of more than 80 production sites, service, and trading companies, the company offers a broad product, technology, and service portfolio. From prototype to series production, Wieland develops solutions for automotive, aerospace, electronics, refrigeration, air conditioning, and many other industries. Wieland uses high-performance copper materials to drive the success of its B2B customers in future-oriented fields such as electromobility, connectivity, and urbanization. High technical competence, customer-oriented thinking, and sustainability determine their actions and have been the basis of the company's success since 1820.

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Wieland in brief

Headquarter

Graf-Arco-Straße 36 | 89079 Ulm | Germany

Facts

*1820 in Ulm, Germany | Sales: 620 kt | Turnover: €6.3bn |
Locations: 79 | Employees: 9,400 [FY 22/23 figures of the Wieland Group]

Executive Board

Dr. Erwin Mayr, CEO | Gregor Tschernjavski, CFO

Chairman of the Supervisory Board

Fritz-Jürgen Heckmann

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